

# **IOWA COLLEGE STUDENT AID COMMISSION**

## **MINUTES OF MEETING**

**January 21, 2011**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Iowa College Student Aid Commission  
603 East 12<sup>th</sup> Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Des Moines, Iowa 50319  
Conference Room**

### **Members Present:**

Janet Adams	Timothy P. Cole
Robert Denson	Bob Donley
Crystal Ford	Greg Forristall
Shazia Manus	Frederick Moore
Herman Quirnbach	Kelli Todd
Roger Utman	Cindy Winckler

### **Members Absent:**

Randy Feenstra	Terrence Martin
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### **Staff Present:**

Michael Anderson	Todd Brown
Heather Doe	Tony Girardi
Deb Krueger	Julie Leeper
Karen Misjak	Bobbi Pulley
Carolyn Small	Ashley Wendt

### **Legal Counsel Present:**

David VanCompernelle

### **Guests Present:**

Laurie Becvar, University of South Dakota  
Jeff Birdsley, BTC Capital Management  
Mark Christy, Hamilton Technical College  
John Parker, Iowa Student Loan  
Andy Rahimi, Ashford University  
Dan Richins, Ashford University  
Melissa Stover, Banker's Trust Company

### **Call to Order**

The Iowa College Student Aid Commission met for a regularly scheduled meeting on January 21, 2011. Commission Chair Adams called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with a quorum present.

### **Minutes of the November 19, 2010**

Motion: Commissioner Moore moved to approve the November 19, 2010 meeting minutes as written. Commissioner Donley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

### **Executive Director's Report**

Ms. Misjak introduced the new Director of Accounting for the Commission. Deb Krueger previously worked for the Department of Administrative Services where she was a Budget Analyst. Ms. Krueger said she has a Bachelor Degree in Applied Math from Grandview College and a Masters Degree in Accounting from Drake University.

Ms. Misjak said the agency has released the Iowa Financial Aid Application for the 2011-2012 academic year. The Application combines applications for six undergraduate student financial aid programs into one application process. From January 1 to January 18, 1,092 students have accessed the application.

House File 2531 was passed during the 2010 Legislative Session requiring the Governor's office to save \$83.7 million from the state's general fund during Fiscal Year 2011. Ms. Misjak said the Commission's share of the reduction totals \$60,946 and is 20 percent of the original \$310,843 appropriated to the Commission for administration of state programs. Ms. Misjak said the Commission will be changing some salary splits to help with the reduction.

Ms. Misjak said Commission staff has submitted a proposal to the US Department of Education for a grant to implement a Talent Search program in partnership with schools in Cedar Rapids and Des Moines. The proposal requested \$230,000 annually. Staff continues to search for grants to help bring new money into the State of Iowa to help serve students.

The financial literacy tool was launched this week and staff have provided training at schools in Indianola and Des Moines. This tool is only accessible through the I Have a Plan Iowa web portal.

Commissioner Donley presented Commissioners with the Board of Regents Annual Report brochure. The brochure is a synopsis of the first annual report. Commissioner Donley said the report talks about the legislative priorities for this year and the contributions to the Iowa economy. The full report is available on the Board of Regents website. Commissioner Donley said the next board meeting for the Board of Regents will be February 2 and 3, 2011 in Iowa City.

On February 3, speaker Don Norris will speak about what other states are doing on best practices, on collaborative efforts, and the programs that have been started this year. He will also talk about ways to expand access at a lower cost. This presentation will be streamed and available on-line. His presentation will tie neatly with the Board of Regents Strategic Plan. Speaker Nate Johnson will also talk about access and affordability. This presentation will also be available online.

Ms. Misjak said the Commission has been asked to present in to the Joint Education Appropriation Subcommittee on January 25, 2011. This presentation will focus on services and resources the Commission provides and the financial impact to the agency due to the elimination of the Federal Family Education Loan Program.

#### **Postsecondary Registration Hamilton Technical College**

Ms. Small said the matter of postsecondary registration of Hamilton Technical College was presented to Commissioners during the November meeting. At that time Hamilton Technical College had not yet developed requisite policies. Ms. Small said that all policies required for postsecondary registration with the State of Iowa are in place and staff is recommending approval of this application.

Motion: Commissioner Moore moved to approve the application for postsecondary registration for Hamilton Technical College. Commissioner Donley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

#### **Postsecondary Registration University of South Dakota**

Ms. Small said the matter of postsecondary registration for University of South Dakota was presented to Commissioners during the November meeting. At that time Commissioners identifies three stipulations for approval. Ms. Small said that all policies required for postsecondary registration with the State of Iowa are in place and staff is recommending approval of this application.

Motion: Commissioner Denson moved to approve the application for postsecondary registration for the University of South Dakota. Commissioner Utman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

#### **Administrative Rules**

Ms. Leeper recommended adoption of amendments to Administrative Rules Chapter 1 – Organization and Operations; Chapter 34 – Registered Nurse and Nurse Educator Loan Forgiveness Program; and Chapter 35 – Iowa Teacher Shortage Loan Forgiveness Program. During the November 2010 Commission meeting the Commission proposed changes to these rules.

Motion: Commissioner Denson moved the adoption and filing of amendments to Administrative Rules Chapter 1 – Organization and Operations; Chapter 34 – Registered Nurse and Nurse Educator Loan Forgiveness Program; and Chapter 35 – Iowa Teacher Shortage Loan Forgiveness Program. Commissioner Moore seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

### **Banker's Trust**

Mr. Anderson introduced Melissa Stover from Banker's Trust Company and Jeff Birdsley from BTC Capital Management. Banker's Trust was selected as the administrator of the Trust Fund for GEAR UP Iowa. Ms. Stover said that Bankers Trust has partnered with GEAR UP Iowa on the website and has held lunch and learns. Mr. Birdsley gave a presentation on the performance of the funds and how the monies have been invested. They described their investment strategy. Mr. Anderson said the next scheduled draw down is April 16, 2011 for scholarship dollars to be invested in the Trust Fund.

### **Legislative Action Committee Report**

Ms. Leeper said that five of the six bills the Commission proposed have been released as Senate Study Bills and an additional bill is expected on language contained in Iowa Code Chapter 714. In addition to the Commission's pre-filed bills, Ms. Leeper said she also watches bills related to the Commission or staffing for the agency. Ms. Leeper said she will continue to include links to the bills in the Weekly Report sent to Commissioners.

Commissioner Donley asked what Commission staff thinks about the House rule that would require lobbyists to get permission from the Governor's office prior to lobbying on a piece of legislature. Ms. Leeper said this will require more steps before being able to move forward on lobbying. Commissioner Quirnbach said it would severely hurt all elements of the process and that legislators rely on good communication with everyone. Commissioner Winckler added that legislators rely on information that lobbyists provide and, if lobbyists are not allowed to talk with legislators, it curtails the flow of information.

Ms. Small said Commission staff has received the initial draft of the Chapter 714 changes from the Legislative Services Agency. She told Commissioners that staff recommends changes to the draft language that would authorize the Commission to charge a fee to an applicant who files for an exemption to the requirement to file evidence of financial responsibility and that the revenue brought in from this fee be provided to the Commission to subsidize the administrative costs associated with postsecondary registration. Staff also recommends language that would require a school that must file evidence of financial responsibility to refile updated financial responsibility information at least every two years. Finally, staff believes language should be incorporated into the Iowa Code to give the Commission joint responsibility with the Iowa Attorney

General's office to write administrative rules for Chapter 714. Ms. Small said the recommended language is being reviewed by the Attorney General's office. When the language is received from the Attorney General's office, it will be sent to Commissioners for review. Ms. Leeper said there is 7 days from the time the Legislative Services Agency sends the draft to the time it must be resubmitted.

Motion: Commissioner Donley moved that the Legislative Action Committee be given authority to review the drafted language for Chapter 714 and authorize staff to submit that language to the Legislative Services Agency. Commissioner Moore seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

### **FY2011 Expenditure Summary**

Ms. Misjak presented the FY11 Revenue and Expenditure Summary.

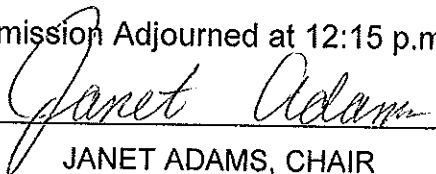
A redesign of the website is currently in progress and we are working on a micro-site for Legislators and Commissioners that will have reports that relate to data collected by the Commission. Staff has been tracking requests from Legislators and hopes this will be a great resource for them. This micro-site will have more information on the big picture things. Commissioner Quirnbach asked if a link will be provided on the Commissions main website. Ms. Misjak said a link will be placed on the website and the micro-site will be available for the public.

Commissioner Denson asked that the Commission receive a report on the contract with Xap Corporation. Information to be included is the budget and an update of the services provided. Ms. Misjak said this item will be placed on the March 2011 meeting agenda. Commissioner Denson also requested an update on the GEAR UP budget.

### **The Condition of Higher Education in Iowa**

Ms. Doe presented to Commissioners the Condition of Higher Education in Iowa. This report was presented in draft form and when finalized will be available to the public on the Commission's website. Commissioner Moore requested the report be sent to all Commissioners for review.

Commission Adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

  
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JANET ADAMS, CHAIR

  
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TIMOTHY COLE, VICE CHAIR